



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

October 27, 2024

Reformation Sunday

Take heart: it is not too late to build a better world.

GATHER

PRELUDE

Prière à Notre-Dame
from *Suite gothique*, Op. 25

Léon Boëllmann

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

Outside, the storms of the world rage. Here, Christ compels us in.

Here, we find shelter in the storm.

Winds of injustice howl. The waves of oppression crash hard on our shores.

We find our refuge in Christ who walks upon rough seas.

Here, our souls find rest.

Here we are buoyed for the work of justice and the pursuit of peace.

We gather now to praise God, the Creator of all.

*HYMN 439

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG

*INVOCATION

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

*PASSING THE PEACE

*As a sign of our reconciliation with God and each other,
please greet those around you, saying "peace" or "the peace of Christ."*

SUNG RESPONSE *Seated*

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;
God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

Text: John L. Bell, 2008
Music: South African song; trans. John L. Bell, 2008

WELCOME

ANTHEM

THE OLD SOUTH RINGERS
Peter Coulombe, *director*

LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Rory Razon

*HYMN 24

Yigdal Elohim Chai
(The God of Abraham Praise)

LEONI

*During the hymn, children who wish to may meet childcare staff
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SCRIPTURE

The Immigrants Creed
by Jose Luis Casal

SERMON

Not Just a Good Idea, It's the Law

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 18

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

CWM RHONDDA

*CALL TO PRAYER

God be with you.

And also with you.

May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts.

Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.

Let us pray. *Please be seated.*

Rachel J. Barton

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Be Thou My Vision

Tim Harbold, *arr.*

Be thou my vision, O God of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought in the day and the night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and be my true Word;
be ever near me and I with you, God;
be my guiding star, my moon and my sun;
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

Riches I need not, nor the world's empty praise;
thou my inheritance, now and always;
heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Be thou my wisdom; still be my vision. Amen.

RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Ashley J. Popperson



To give via ApplePay, GooglePay, or with a Credit Card,
scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.
You can also Text 44-321 and enter OSC to make a gift.

OFFERTORY

God Is Still Speaking

Marty Haugen

God is still speaking: blessed invitation.
God is still speaking: listen and draw near.
God is still speaking: see a new creation.
God is still speaking: stand and do not fear.

Open up your ears to hear: *God is still speaking.*
Living Good News, strong and clear: *listen and draw near.*
Through the struggle, grief and pain: *God is still speaking.*
God can raise us up again: *listen and draw near.*

Old South Church *in* Boston invites you
to its *Signature Services and Events* during the coming year.

SCARED FOR GOOD — October 27th, 2024 | 6PM
COSTUMES ENCOURAGED!

Old South Organist MitcHELL-FIRE Crawford and a host of demonic associates will thrill you with spine-tingling sounds of the season, courtesy of our room-rattling Skinner organ.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY — November 3rd, 2024 | 11AM

In a solemn service of sacred music, we gather to name and remember our own beloved dead who now rest from their labors in the arms of God.

MEETING HOUSE SUNDAY — November 24th, 2024 | 11AM

We return to our ancestral home, the Old South Meeting House at Washington & Milk Streets, to give thanks for God's many blessings and the rich history of our faith.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE — December 24th, 2024

Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 5PM

LESSONS AND CAROLS | 8PM

CAROLS AND COMMUNION | 11PM

HOLY WEEK 2025

Palm Sunday — April 13 | 9AM & 11AM

Maundy Thursday — April 17 | 7PM

Good Friday — April 18 | 7PM

EASTER & MARATHON SUNDAY —

April 20th, 2025 | 9AM, 11AM, & 1PM

The triumph of the Christian story of resurrection informs a service of worship that is characterized by joyous celebration. Our celebration continues with hundreds of marathoners joining us for worship, where we will pause to acknowledge the runners, their families, and volunteers in a special “Blessing of the Athletes.”

WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.

Restrooms are available. Just ask!

An accessible, single-use restroom is available near Reception.

Welcome to Old South Church in Boston. We are a progressive Christian church first gathered in 1669. The Church played a significant role in early American history. Today, Old South Church continues to outfit itself for mission and ministry in the 21st century as a thriving church in the heart of Boston.

If you are interested in deepening your participation, or if you just love Old South, it's time to think about **membership**. For more information, contact Associate Minister Ashley Popperson at ashley@oldsouth.org

HEARING ASSISTANCE

Our hearing loop works directly with devices equipped with a "T-Coil." The sound is best if you sit further inside the pews, away from the aisles. The loop does not work in the upper galleries. If you would like to borrow a device paired with our system, please ask an usher.

GARAGE PARKING VALIDATIONS

We have arrangements for discounted parking with two nearby garages for Old South Church worship or church business (excluding weddings and concerts). For more information check out www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

Check out the church website at www.oldsouth.org/calendar for a calendar of events, and the general website www.oldsouth.org for more on the history and other information about this storied ship of faith!

CCLI #2802138 ❖ CCS #12028 ❖ OneLicense #A-700000

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON — MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & STAFF

John M. Edgerton, *Senior Minister*

Ashley J. Popperson, *Associate Minister* ❖ Rachel J. Barton, *Assistant Minister*
Gracie Paterson, *Nancy S. Taylor Leadership Fellow* ❖ Kat Woodard, *Seminarian*

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
David F. Story, *Wedding Minister* ❖ Kenneth H. Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*

James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus* ❖ Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister Emeritus*

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*

Audrey Woodhams, *Creative Director for Twilight Worship*

Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*

Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*

Aislin Kate Anderson, *Children's Choir Director* ❖ Juniper Mai, *Children's Choir Accompanist*

Amelia Gerrard, *Director of Administration* ❖ Rebecca Pasipanodya, *Director of Operations*

Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Kathleen Steen, *Staff Accountant*

Emily Ross, *Archivist* ❖ Karen Hand, *Wedding Coordinator*

Jamie Garuti Sage, *Multimedia Director*

Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants* ❖ Ava Welling, *Sound Technician*

Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & David Brode, *Sextons*

Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*

Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, & William Wei, *Evening & Weekend Receptionists*

Maren Batalden, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Bill Bulkeley, *Treasurer*

Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*

Christine Del Favero & Laurie Stickels, *Senior Deacons*

A NOTE ON THE INCLUSIVE DIMENSIONS OF GOD'S GRACE

Old South Church in Boston, in the name of its host, Jesus Christ, and in the spirit of Christ's invitation carved into the stone of this church's portico, "Behold I Set Before You an Open Door," welcomes all who seek to know God. Following the One who we believe is Sovereign and Savior, we affirm that each individual is a child of God, and recognize that we are called to be like one body with many members, seeking with others of every race, ethnicity, creed, class, age, gender, marital status, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression to journey together toward the promised realm of God. We invite everyone to join in the common life and mission of our reconciling community through participation and leadership in this congregation, and by fully sharing in the worship, rites and sacraments of this church. As we all move forward with the work of this church, we commit ourselves to making justice and inclusivity a reality in this congregation and in the world. On the threshold of Christ's open door, we rely upon the healing, unconditional nature of God's love and grace to be our help and guide.



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